

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

San Diego, California
October 31, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants make the below-listed documents of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

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U.S. Patent Documents

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,352,638 to James K. Vallance, issued October 5, 1982;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,385,866 to Toshihiko Ochiai et al., issued May 31, 1983;
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,595,349 to David M. Preston et al., issued June 17, 1986;
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,943,170 to Masahiro Aida, issued July 24, 1990;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,127,386 to Brian D. Sowards, issued July 7, 1992;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,133,326 to Eiji Nishimura et al., issued July 28, 1992;
7. U.S. Patent No. 5,224,459 to James Middlebrook, issued July 6, 1993;
8. U.S. Patent No. D339,142 to James Middlebrook, issued September 7, 1993;
9. U.S. Patent No. 5,246,352 to Toshiro Kawakami, issued September 21, 1993;
10. U.S. Patent No. 5,289,813 to Kazunari Adachi et al., issued March 1, 1994;
11. U.S. Patent No. D362,384 to James K. Middlebrook, issued September 19, 1995;
12. U.S. Patent No. 5,887,576 to Floyd James Wheeler, Jr. et al., issued March 30, 1999;
13. U.S. Patent No. 6,092,511 to James K. Middlebrook, issued July 25, 2000;
14. U.S. Patent No. 6,192,871 B1 to James K. Middlebrook, issued February 27, 2001;
15. U.S. Patent No. 6,293,263 B1 to James K. Middlebrook, issued September 25, 2001;
16. U.S. Patent No. 6,293,264 B1 to James K. Middlebrook, issued September 25, 2001;
17. U.S. Patent No. 6,318,346 B1 to Allen L. Martin, issued November 20, 2001;

18. U.S. Patent No. 6,375,442 B1 to Lyle Ward et al., issued April 23, 2002;
19. U.S. Patent No. 6,390,942 B2 to Floyd James Wheeler, Jr. et al., issued May 21, 2002;
20. U.S. Patent No. 6,474,066 B1 to Chiways Lin, issued November 5, 2002;
21. U.S. Patent No. 6,510,692 B2 to Takashi Shirakawa, issued January 28, 2003;
22. U.S. Patent No. 6,516,789 B1 to Daniel W. Jones, issued February 11, 2003;
23. U.S. Patent No. 6,558,117 B1 to Masashi Fukaya et al., issued May 6, 2003;
24. U.S. Patent No. 6,609,505 B2 to David Allen Janson; issued August 26, 2003;
25. U.S. Patent No. 6,612,747 B1 to Daniel W. Jones, issued September 2, 2003;
26. U.S. Patent No. 6,615,809 B1 to Allen L. Martin, issued September 9, 2003;
27. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0190242 A1, published October 9, 2003;
28. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0192515 A1, published October 16, 2003; and
29. U.S. Patent No. 6,634,853 B1 to J. Hilbert Anderson, issued October 21, 2003.

* * * * *

The above-listed documents are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 (submitted in duplicate).

Copies of the above-listed U.S. patents are not enclosed, in accordance with the waiver of the requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 that appears in the Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003 and entitled "Information


Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications Filed After June 30, 2003”.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the above-identified application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO/SB/08, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b). Therefore, it is believed that no fee is required in connection with this submission. In the event that a fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2298, in the name of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

10.31.03
Date



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	To be assigned
Filing Date	October 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	James K. MIDDLEBROOK et al.
Art Unit	To be assigned
Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	31254-2

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,352,638	10-05-1982	Vallance	
		US- 4,385,866	05-31-1983	Ochiai et al.	
		US- 4,595,349	06-17-1986	Preston et al.	
		US- 4,943,170	07-24-1990	Aida	
		US- 5,127,386	07-07-1992	Sowards	
		US- 5,133,326	07-28-1992	Nishimura et al.	
		US- 5,224,459	07-06-1993	Middlebrook	
		US- D339,142	09-07-1993	Middlebrook	
		US- 5,246,352	09-21-1993	Kawakami	
		US- 5,289,813	03-01-1994	Adachi et al.	
		US- D362,384	09-19-1995	Middlebrook	
		US- 5,887,576	03-30-1999	Wheeler, Jr. et al.	
		US- 6,092,511	07-25-2000	Middlebrook	
		US- 6,192,871 B1	02-27-2001	Middlebrook	
		US- 6,293,263 B1	09-25-2001	Middlebrook	
		US- 6,293,264 B1	09-25-2001	Middlebrook	
		US- 6,318,346 B1	11-20-2001	Martin	
		US- 6,375,442 B1	04-23-2002	Ward et al.	
		US- 6,390,942 B2	05-21-2002	Wheeler, Jr. et al.	

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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		US- 6,516,789 B1	02-11-2003	Jones	
		US- 6,558,117 B1	05-06-2003	Fukaya et al.	
		US- 6,609,505 B2	08-26-2003	Janson	
		US- 6,612,747 B1	09-02-2003	Jones	
		US- 6,615,809 B1	09-09-2003	Martin	
		US- 2003/0190242 A1	10-09-2003	Anderson	
		US- 2003/0192515 A1	10-16-2003	Wheeler, Jr. et al.	
		US- 6,634,853 B1	10-21-2003	Anderson	
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